Télégraphie

LIGNE

d

Ramification

d

J'ai l'honneur de prier
Monsieur le Centre de bloc
de donner connaissance de cette
dépêche à l'agent de la comp.ie
Leleu dans le Bas Audrette
Le de Mathiben

Dépêche Télégraphique de Paris du 24 7bre 1816
Parvenuë à Strasbourg le 25 à 1 heure du soir

Le Ministre de la Guerre

A Monsieur le Préfet du Bas Rhin

Mr Leleu ouvre à son associé un nouveau crédit de 80,000f sur Mr Turckheim. Veuillez en prévenir son agent

Certifié conforme par le
Directeur du Télég.ie

Cormilleau

A Monsieur

Monsieur le Comte de Bloc

Directeur de la poste aux lettres

a Strasbourg

Nau d'ornaux

DSI

Dépêche Telegraphique

A Monsieur

Monsieur Le Comte de Bouthillier

Préfet du Bas Rhin

à Strasbourg

4.9

Ordered by phone on approval 7/5/57

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HAMILTON
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July 3
1957

Mr. Bern Dibner
Director
Burndy Library
Norwalk, Conn.

Dear Mr. Dibner:

Recently I secured a most unusual and rare telegraphic item--an original telegram on engraved letterhead, dated from Paris, July 24, 1816. Entitled "Depeche Telegraphique", the telegram is a message in French to the Minister of War at Strasbourg, and covers nearly one full page. At the top of the page is a handsome engraving, picturing a winged Mercury in flight between two of the optically operated Chappe telegraph stations.

The price of this extremely rare item is $52.50, less ten percent pre-catalog discount. A similar one, not quite so fine, sold a few years ago at auction for $75.00. Just use the enclosed postpaid envelope to let me know if you would like to see this unusual item on approval.

Sincerely yours,

Charles Hamilton

CH:cu

Charles Hamilton

When England's Nelson and his fleet, during the Napoleonic time, blockaded France and its Allies, a Frenchman, Claude Chappe, invented an optical telegraph system which functioned extremely well and could also be used by private persons ~~against~~ for a fee. The most important lines were from the English Channel Coast to Paris, from Italy to France and from Strasbourg to Paris, etc. A few years after the Napoleonic Wars this system broke down because of financial reasons and there was no longer a real telegraphic system in use,(by which the forwarding time of messages had been reduced greatly) until the American Morse invented the magnetic telegraph system.